## Budget Unit Brief



## **Anti-Trust Fund**

## **Purpose**

The <u>Attorney General</u> is charged with the enforcement of lowa Code chapters <u>551</u> and <u>553</u>, lowa's anti-trust laws. The Office of the Attorney General may institute civil or criminal proceedings to enforce this law. The Anti-Trust Fund is created in lowa Code section <u>553.19</u> under the administration of the Attorney General. This restricted Fund is used for the investigation and prosecution of anti-competitive practices.

## **Funding**

Receipts to the Fund include amounts received from Iowa or federal civil anti-trust judgments or settlements that are based on damages sustained by the State, civil penalties, attorney fees, costs, and amounts that are specifically directed to the Fund by the judgment or settlement, and amounts that are designated by the settlement or judgment for use by the Attorney General for anti-trust enforcement or education. The Iowa Code provides a standing limited appropriation of \$500,000 annually from the Fund to the Office of the Attorney General for the enforcement of Iowa and federal anti-trust laws. The year-end balance carries forward to the next fiscal year. Interest earnings remain in the Fund.

Receipts to the Fund vary widely from year to year. During the last five years, receipts ranged from a low of \$1,200 (interest only) in FY 2014 to a high of approximately \$286,000 in FY 2016.

During this reporting period, expenditures range from a low of approximately \$93,000 in FY 2015 to a high of approximately \$469,000 in FY 2014. The majority of expenditures consist of reimbursements to the Office of the Attorney General for enforcement of lowa and federal anti-trust laws.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapters <u>13</u>, <u>551</u>, and <u>553</u> 61 Iowa Administrative Code

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